



City of Gaithersburg Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Gaithersburg Community Museum Staff, Volunteers Recognized for Educational Programming

Gaithersburg, Md. (March 4, 2019) The staff and volunteers of the Gaithersburg Community Museum and Latitude Observatory were recently designated as “Night Sky Network Stars” by NASA, the Jet Propulsion Lab, and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. The designation recognizes efforts to bring the wonders of space science to the public through astronomy outreach.

The award letter was accompanied by specially designed pins that commemorate the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11. On July 21, 1969, astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin took the first steps on the lunar surface while Michael Collins orbited the moon in the command module.

Located in the B&O Railroad complex in Olde Towne, the [Gaithersburg Community Museum’s](#) indoor/outdoor interpretive spaces explore Gaithersburg's history and engage the imagination. Nearby Observatory Park, home to the [Gaithersburg Latitude Observatory](#), highlights the scientific work conducted at this unique navigational facility.

Seasonally each year, the Gaithersburg Community Museum hosts Skywatching events at Observatory Park. From learning how to use a telescope to watching meteor shows and focusing on distant planets, the programs led by staff and volunteers help residents of all ages explore the night sky. Visit [gaithersburgmd.gov](#) for more information.

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